

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE MAKES A MEGA MESS DURING MESS FEST A SLIMY, OOZY, GOOEY MESS OF FUN! SATURDAY & SUNDAY AUGUST 3-4 & 10-11

Philadelphia, PA July 24, 2013 – Science turns slimy, oozy, gooey and explosive for two weekends in August during the return of **MESS FEST at The Franklin Institute**. Science educators at The Franklin Institute have come up with some of the biggest and messiest science demonstrations that are guaranteed to amaze and wow! *How high will 2,000 colorful balls soar when exploded into the air using ultra-cold liquid nitrogen and steaming hot water? What happens when jell-o, spaghetti and even a watermelon are dropped from 42-feet above the Atrium?* These are just a few of the large-scale, messy and over-the-top demonstrations that will fill the museum and beyond -- illustrating gravity, chemical reactions, physics, pressure and many other basic (but fun) scientific concepts.

Grand-scale, over-the-top science demonstrations will take place at the top of the hour from 12pm-4pm each day in just out front of the museum. While the FI team prepares for the next big demo, it's the visitor's turn to get their hands messy with a number of continuous hands-on activities taking place all afternoon -- totaling four straight hours of sloppy science fun -- over two consecutive weekends.

Mess Fest at The Franklin Institute

Saturday & Sunday, August 3-4 and August 10-11
Noon – 4pm; Free with museum admission

Grand-scale science experiments at 12pm, 1pm, 2pm & 3pm include:

12pm: Epic Soap Bubble Monster: mounds of soap explode into the air!
1pm: TP Typhoon: colorful two-ply meets leaf blowers for a 20-roll salute!
2pm: Gravity Drop: jell-o, slime, spaghetti and a watermelon hits the ground from 42 feet high!
3pm: Giant Ball Explosion: 2,000 colorful balls exploded into the air in Grand Finale fashion!

Visitor hands-on activities from 12pm – 4pm include:

Alka-Seltzer Rockets
Bubbles Galore
Make (*and take*) your own SLIME!
Watermelon Blast

-more-

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PUBLIC RELATIONS



Hi-Res Mess Fest photos from 2012:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/thefranklin/sets/72157631027133704/>

The Franklin Institute

Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania's most visited museum, it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on science education. For more information, visit www.fi.edu.